Town of Scituate Update June 22, 2020

COVID19 cases: one only positive antibody test in Scituate since last Thursday. Statewide, positive cases have dropped to 1%. At the peak, positive cases were at 27%. Please keep up the good work by remembering to wear your masks, wash your hands, and keep social distancing.

This Saturday, June 22nd, at 9am will be Town Meeting. It will be held outdoors on the new SHS Athletic Turf Field and stands. The Advisory book is available online at www.scituatema.gov (under Advisory tab; will be put on home page soon). Also, procedures will be posted later today about what safety measures to expect when you attend Town Meeting.

Phase II, Step 2 Re-Opening begins today. This will allow restaurants to begin indoor seating. Because the restrictions include 6-feet separation, outdoor seating (and Front Street closures) will continue until capacity can be increased. Riva is expected to submit a plan for outdoor seating in front of their restaurant. If approved, then Front Street closure will be extended from Otis to Harbor Heights Road. Otis Road will remain open from the west through to Cole Parkway.

Close personal services (nail salons, personal trainers, etc) are now allowed to operate with restrictions. Retail dressing rooms are open by appointment and offices may bring 50% employees back.

The Governor has pushed back the earliest potential Phase III opening to July 6. This is the final restrictive phase and will allow gyms, casinos, and other high-touch facilities to open.

The beaches and the Spit were very crowded this weekend. Please do everything you can to social distance when enjoying our outdoor spaces. If officials become concerned that the positive cases are growing with beach users, the capacity will need to be limited.

Town Hall staff is back working in the building. Residents are allowed in the building by appointment only until Phase III. You will be required to provide contact information, wear a mask, and social distance in the building.

Water usage continues to be well above normal levels. Our population has increased because more weekend residents are now here full time. However, the biggest water drain is from outdoor watering. Irrigation systems may only be used one day a week and hand-held watering must take place before 9am and after 5pm. The water department has begun issuing fines for non-compliance and will continue to monitor the nighttime irrigation use. It's pretty obvious who is not complying with the irrigation usage. Please stop.

Normally we expect brown water complaints to increase during the 4th of July holiday. However, anyone experiencing brown water is encouraged to report to the water department, including your address, so problem areas can be identified.

Next video update will be Thursday, June 25th at 9:30am.